

Integrating TEI and EAD

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LEADERS: Linking EAD to Electronically Retrievable Sources

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- Developing a generic computer-based toolset that integrates EAD encoded finding aids with TEI encoded transcripts and digitised images of archival material.
- Text Encoding Initiative (TEI)
 - For archival source materials
- Encoded Archival Description (EAD)
 - For finding aids
- NISO Metadata for Images in XML (MIX) Schema
 - For digital images metadata



TEI for Archives: Research Methodology

- Analysis of commonly occurring structures, features and contents found within a range of different types of archive source material
 - Material held in UCL's Special Collections and Record Office
 - Expect to analyse material held in other archival repositories to validate initial findings and uncover as wide range of encoding challenges as possible



TEI for Archives: Preliminary findings

- 'Transcription of Primary Sources' tag set in TEI can deal with a wide range of encoding challenges inherent in archival material:
 - Complex additions, deletions and corrections
 - Gaps within and damage to the text
 - Changes in document hands, style and character of writing



TEI for Archives: Preliminary findings

- Need to explore encoding options for:
 - 'overlaid data'
 - Textual and numerical data presented in complex tables
 - Formulae and mathematical expressions within the text
- Examining TEI and other DTDs specifically built to handle these structures and features



Exploring solutions for encoding 'overlaid data'

- 'overlaid data': when an underlying layer of data is used as the basic structure onto which further data [other layer(s)] is applied
 - Accounts and registers
 - Address books
 - Calendars
 - Questionnaires and forms



LEADERS Example of 'overlaid data'

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- Overlaps between EAD and TEI occur in relation to metadata that:
 - Identifies, locates and describes the creation of the original archive document
 - Describes the physical characteristics of the original object
 - Provides contextual information about the creator of the original object and the participants within the object
 - Interprets/describes the data in the object



- Avoidance of repetition of information within EAD and TEI
- More complete description of an object's physical characteristics
- Standardisation of contextual information regarding individuals/organisations



TEI/EAD Integration: search and retrieval issues

 Elements that interpret/categorise the actual data within the object

EAD E	ements	Overlapping TEI elements		
Name of immediate parent element	Name of child elements	Name of immediate parent element(s)	Name of child elements	
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XML Schema

- Use of namespaces
- Schema will provide a generic and re-usable means to encode resources

XSLT/CSS

 Style sheets will provide a means to manipulate, transform and present the encoded resources, thus supporting re-purposing of encoded materials

WSDL/SOAP

 Incorporating 'self-describing services' will allow multiple applications to be constructed to make different use of the encoded materials

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- Demonstrator a sample application to show what can be produced/generated from the encoded materials and the toolset
- Basic search and retrieval and alternative presentations to show the possibilities of TEI/EAD encoded resources
- Used to gather feedback from users which will guide us in further design and development